(c) whether Government have decided to rehabilitate such families on the high lands to save them from the repeated agony of flood-havoc; and

(d) if so, what is the action-plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) A number of flood protection measures like construction and strengthening of embankments on river Jamuna, studs, spurs and Tie-bands and desilting of storm water drains in the Union Territory of Delhi have been taken in the last 3 Years to prevent demange due to floods.

(b) A total number of 8122 families had to be shifted due to recent floods in Delhi areas.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is presently under consideration.

R and D expenditure by Pepsi Project

*125. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI SHANKER SINGH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) how much Budget is earmarked in the Pepsi Project for Research and Development; and

(b) how does it compare with the budgets of the various Agriculture Universities and other laboratories in India on Agricultural Research and Development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Rs. 1.64 crores is earmarked for the Pepsi Project for Research and Development. This includes a Capital outlay of Rs. 0.59 crore and operating expense of Rs. 1.05 crores for five years.

(b) The budget estimate for the year 1988-89 of various Agricultural Universities and other laboratories is Rs. 38.83 crores.

Taking over of Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Ltd.

*127. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in taking over the Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited, Bhadravathi; whether the Government of India have put in certain conditions in this regard; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the State Government thereto and the time required to complete the formalities for the taking-over of the steel plant?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Before the take over of Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. (VISL) is considered by the Central Govt. certain steps have to be taken to ensure its economic viability. Amongst others, assured power supply by Karnataka State Electricity Board at reduced rates, and concessions to VISL from the financial insitutions and banks regarding outstanding loans and accumulated interest on loan are of crucial importance.

Govt. of Karnataka have yet to communicate their response to the proposed reduction in rate of power supply and keeping it frozen for the next five years with the assurance of sustained power supply.

Although VISL with the help of SAIL were to hold discussions with the financial institutions|banks with regard to the financal concessions to be made available by them, no final decision has so far been taken in this regard.

Decision on the proposal for the take over of the VISL by the Central Govt. would be considered after a positive response on the points indicated to the State Govt. is available.

Child exploitation

*129. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has

been drawn to a report which appeared in he 'Hindustan Times' dated September 13, 1988 to the effect that child exploitation remained unabated in the country;

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) what are the laws in operation now prohibiting child labour in the country; and

(d) whether there is any machinery in the country to enforce the laws prohibiting child labour in the organized and unorganized sectors of the industry; if so, whether it is proposed to make that machinery more effective?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government is already aware of the problems of Child Labour in the country and has been taking necessary steps to tackle the problems. The employment of children is prohibited under Acts such as the Factories Act, 1948, Mines Act, 1952, the Plantations Labour Act 1951, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the States' Shops and Commercial Establishments Acts; and in certain specified occupations and processes under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 etc. The responsibility of enforcing some of these Acts like the Factories Act, 1943 the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the States' (Shops and Commercial Establishments) Acts, and in majority of areas under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 lies with the State Governments. The responsibility of enforcing the Mines Act, 1952 rests with the Central Government. The enforcement machinery set up by the appropriate Government under the various Acts are required to enforce compliance of the provisions of the Acts relating to child labour also. Central Government has been strictly enforcing the Acts falling within its sphere. The Central Government has also been urging the State Governments to strictly enforce the provisions of the Acts. The Government has also launched the National Child Labour Policy 1987 which includes enforcement of the laws pertaining to child labour, focussing general development programmes for benefitting working children and their families and project based plans of action for child labour.

Transfer of accommodation in the names of the dependants of retired Government employees

*130. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government employees occupying General Pool accommodation can get their accommodation transferred in the name of their eligible dependants after their retirement;

(b) whether it is also fact that other Government employees occupying accommodation in the special pools of various offices of the Government of India, cannot get their accommodation transferred in the name of their eligible dependants after retirement; if so, the rasons for the disparity in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to allow transfers of accommodation of the special pool employees to the names of their eligible dependants after their retirement; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes, Sir, subject to prescribed conditions.

(b) to (d) The special pool of accommodation of various offices of the Govt. of India is controlled by the respective offices. Rules|instructions for allotment of such accommodation|allied matters are also prepared by the respective offices. Such rules|provisions are framed by the respective offices keeping in view their special circumstances|requirements. It is for the respective offices to decide as to whether provisions to allow transfer of accommodation of the special pool em-